In the method according to the invention the aqueous suspension in which the precipitated calcium carbonate is to be produced by reaction of calcium ions and carbonate ions from carbon dioxide may include non-consumable solids, ie solids which do not substantially take part in chemical reaction, to be entrained by and/ or bonded to the crystals of precipitated calcium carbonate produced in the aqueous medium. The non-consumable solids may comprise fibres, eg cellulose pulp fibres of the kind used in paper making, or present in a waste stream from a paper making operation. Where the fibres are present in a waste stream they may be present together with particulate material, eg a mixture of pigment or filler materials. In one embodiment, the ratio by dry weight of the non-consumable solids to calcium ion source, such as calcium hydroxide, prior to the addition of carbon dioxide ranges from 1:10 to 10:1.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1, 20, and 21 with amended claims 1, 20, and 21 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of continuously or semi-continuously producing a solid product comprising precipitated calcium carbonate suspended in an aqueous medium which method comprises

(i) continuously or semi-continuously delivering an aqueous suspension of a calcium ion source into and through a channel comprising a series of at least two static in-line mixers;

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(ii) continuously or semi-continuously introducing carbon dioxide into the suspension in the channel at or before each of the mixers

whereby carbon dioxide and the aqueous suspension are intimately mixed in each mixer to facilitate reaction of the carbon dioxide with the calcium ion source suspended in the aqueous medium,

the calcium ion source in the suspension delivered to the series of static in-line mixers being progressively consumed and converted to calcium carbonate by reaction with the carbon dioxide as the suspension passes through the series, and

(iii) continuously or semi-continuously extracting from the channel an aqueous suspension of calcium carbonate produced by reaction of the calcium ion source and carbon dioxide in the channel.

20. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 13 and wherein the ratio by dry weight of the non-consumable solids to calcium ion source delivered to be mixed with carbon dioxide in the first in-line static mixer is in the range of 1:10 to 10:1.

21. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 20 and wherein an aqueous suspension of the non-consumable solids and an aqueous suspension of the calcium ion source are mixed together in a static in-line mixer to produce the aqueous suspension to be delivered to the first in-line static mixer.

Please add the following new claim:

22. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said aqueous suspension of a calcium ion source is chosen from an aqueous suspension of calcium hydroxide and an aqueous suspension of in situ slaked calcium oxide.

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